



**MALANKARA ORTHODOX  
SYRIAN CHURCH**(INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH)

**DIOCESE OF UK • EUROPE • AFRICA •**  
UK REGISTERED CHARITY : 1139302

**+METROPOLITAN ABRAHAM MAR STEPHANOS**

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**Blessings to all the Vicars, Office Bearers, and the Faithful of all the Parishes in the Diocese of UK-Europe and Africa in the name of the blessed Holy Trinity.**

I am pleased to announce the opening of admissions for the second batch (25-27) of the Diploma in Orthodox Theology (DOT), an initiative of the Department for Theological Education under the banner of Ecumenical Faith Formation through Orthodox Reflections for Transformation (EFFORT).

This academic programme has been prayerfully designed to offer the faithful a structured and reflective study of Orthodox theology. The Diploma is a two-year programme consisting of six modules, delivered through a combination of lectures, webinars, and guided assessments.

We are encouraged by the progress of the first batch of students, who have successfully completed the first two modules and are in the third of the six modules. They continue to journey deeper into the life and theology of the Church. Their commitment and feedback have affirmed the need for such a platform within our Diocese, especially for those seeking theological grounding and spiritual formation.

The application portal for the second batch is open now, and last date for receiving application will be 6th July 2025. Detailed information regarding registration, course content, and fee structure is available on the Diocese website:

<https://indianorthodoxuk.org/effort>

I urge the Vicars and Office Bearers to encourage suitable candidates from their respective parishes to prayerfully consider enrolling in this programme, whether they are young adults, ministry volunteers, or committed laity seeking deeper theological understanding.

With prayers that this initiative will continue to deepen our faith and strengthen our witness,

Yours in Christ,

**+ Metropolitan Abraham Stephanos**